***NUUsLetter***

 January 2022

Northwoods Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

8625 Peggy’s Lane, P.O. Box 1881, Woodruff, WI 54568

[www.nuuf.com](http://nuuf.com)

*We are a Welcoming Congregation* 

**The Fellowship is open for services!**

The services are at 10:00 A.M. **No coffee hour.**

The Board has set out the following guidelines for the next month:

* Full vaccination required to attend in person
* Masks required inside the building
* Social distancing inside the building

The Spirituality committee will be offering a hybrid service which means that there will be a speaker in the pulpit as well as Zoom for those who are not ready to be in a group setting.

We recognize that these are conservative measures and are choosing to protect each other as we enter tourist season.
An Ad Hoc committee of the Board has been meeting regularly through the pandemic and recommends these as prudent measures until we see that infection rates in our area remain lower and the CDC's loosening of mask recommendations for vaccinated persons remain steady over time.

**Upcoming Services**

**Sundays 10:00 a.m.**

**Jan. 16, Social Justice Committee**

**Jan. 30, Rev. Denise Tracy**

**Feb. 13, Sierra Whaley, Channel 12**

**Feb. 27, Rev. Denise Tracy**

**Mar. 13, Mike Haasl**

**Religious Education**

Religious Education resumed in person for fully vaccinated people on Sunday, June 13. We will be gathering at 10:00 a.m. on Sundays without services.

The series we are starting is entitled “The Meaning of Life”.

The kitchen will not be open so bring your own coffee and treats until further notice. We look forward to seeing you. The Board is recommending that we be vaccinated and continue to socially distance and wear masks.

**Announcements**

For distribution of announcements between newsletters or email/address corrections, contact Candy Sorensen at sorencan@yahoo.com

**Milestones**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Randy Wendt | 01-22 |
| Barbara Mochon | 01-24 |
| Connie Lefebvre | 01-27 |
| Aidan Graf | 01-28 |
| Bob Hanson | 02-01 |
| Mary Beth O’Halloran | 02-02 |
| Lillis Raboin | 02-02 |
| Barbara Beutler | 02-03 |
| Pam Thul Immler | 02-04 |
| Judith Maloney | 02-12 |
| Catherine Parker | 02-13 |
| Clair Polfus | 02-17 |
| Ardis White | 02-25 |

Do you see a mistake that can be corrected? If so, please contact Candy Sorensen at (715) 892-2997 or sorencan@yahoo.com Thanks!

**Upcoming Events**

* Frederick Place in Rhinelander has a sizeable number of dates open for meals. If you can help out with one of these dates you can either call Frederick Place at 715-369-9777 or email Tammy Modic at tammymodic.frederickplace@ gmail.com
* **The Social Justice Committee —** Monday, January 17,2022 at 4:00 PM will be holding a Candlelight Vigil at Veteran’s Park in Minocqua. Candles will be provided.
* **The NUUF Board Meeting** is scheduled for Wednesday, January 19 at 10:00 by ZOOM. Contact Toni Polfus if you would like to listen in.
* **The Spirituality Committee —** The Spirituality Committee will meet at 10am by zoom on March 7th.
* **Building Your Own Theology** meets on the first and third Tuesday of the month. They are not taking new participants at this time but you can read the book they are using: The Wise Heart A guide to the universal Teachings of Buddhist Psychology by Jack Kornfield
* **Lunch with Friends** will be meeting every Sunday by ZOOM at Noon. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83292887923?pwd=N29BbFNiSkM1NVVPUkhkbXJFZ1VKUT09>
* **Friends of Fair Trade,**

In need of some more energy? Looking for some sweetness? Of course you are! And you can help small farmers in the process. Order some Fair Trade coffee, chocolate, or tea. We need to get enough special orders to receive free shipping.

Attached is the list of items. In ordering coffee,

>> Be sure to specify ground/drip or whole bean.

>> Note the difference between a BOX of six 10-12 oz. bags, and a CASE of five 2-pound bags (or it may be two 5-pound bags)

Let me know what you'd like. When I get enough orders, I’ll let you know that I will be submitting it. When the order arrives, we can arrange for safe pick up and payment.

Thanks for supporting Fair Trade for small farmers.

David and Phyllis

david.barnhill.925@gmail.com

* **Caritas-Minocqua** is a charitable organization established by local churches and civic groups in the Lakeland area. We assist people with paying small bills in
* emergency situations. We are closed for all face-to-face sessions with clients; however, we are now conducting interviews by telephone on Thursday mornings from 9-noon. You must first leave a message on our voicemail at 715-356-9989. Your message should contain the following information. Please speak clearly and slowly. We need your first and last name, your phone number, whether you are a new client or a returning client, and a very brief statement of your urgent need or how we can help you. Please be patient and we will call you to arrange an interview. Stay safe.

If you can be an empathic listener and want to make a difference in our community and the lives of our residents, this may be the volunteer opportunity for you! If interested, please contact our director, Beth Jacobson at bjgraphic2@gmail.com.

**FROM YOUR BOARD** January 11, 2022

It’s time you heard from the Board on a regular basis. Why. you may ask? We became aware that decisions made by this team are available to the committees, but not the full membership. So, our plan is a monthly corner in the newsletter with Board news.

* **New safety guidelines for dealing with Covid in our building:**

Covid has dominated our thoughts and hearts for now 23 months. The Board reviews the current local infection rate, CDC, Oneida, and Vilas County Health Department recommendations each month. From these and conversations with Spirituality, Hospitality and Social Justice Committees have come the current requirements for indoor services, singing, coffee hour and meetings.

* + **The building remains open.** We know most of our members are vaccinated and hopefully boosted**. BUT** the very transmissible **Omicron** breakthrough infections among the vaccinated are more and more common locally in recent weeks. So, for now, **masking (N95 provides the best protection) and vaccinations are required,** **no group singing, and no coffee hour/potlucks remain our policy**. Stay tuned…
* **Other News:**
	+ Rev Denise Tracy led a ½ day retreat with the Board in early November. Her years of experience with NUUF and national UU affairs helped us hone in on our mission and next steps as a board.
	+ How to stay engaged with each other remains a concern. Do you call other members, consider meeting for coffee, a walk, inviting a few over for a meal? If not, please do it today!
	+ Building Use Requests confuse many of us…How do I do it? Who do I contact? Do I have to fill out the dreaded form?
		- Committees simply alert Terry to put meetings on calendar
		- If you have a onetime request, email Toni Polfus at skipoles@newnorthnet and she’ll ok it and Terry Hoyt will add to calendar.
		- If you have a recurring request, fill out Building Use Form, send to Toni for board approval if needed and it will then be added to calendar.
		- The five outside groups that received NUUF endowment fund contributions sent letters of thanks which are posted on the hallway bulletin board. Thank you everyone for your approval of these donations.

Our warm wishes to each of you as we traverse these busy months and head towards Spring,

Toni Lieppert Polfus, Pam Thul-Immler, Mary Ann Fields,

Mel Hoff and Bill Kane

**The Membership Committee** that oversees communications is making the following request of committee chairs. We would ask that you be responsible for sending communications directly to your committee members rather than sending them through Candy. When submitting things to the NUUSLetter please use a font that is easier to read. And we would also like you to send notice of your meetings so they can be placed on the NUUF.COM calendar. These should go to Terry Hoyt thoyt@newnorth.net. If you have any questions, please call me at 715-614-0088. Thanks for your help in improving communication. We thank Carly Ratliff for doing the NUUSLetter, but she is taking a break from it right now.

We also encourage you to use our website to see what is happening. If you don’t know the user name and password please contact Terry. We do not list it here to protect the privacy of our members. We will be holding a “how to” use the website in person and zoom meeting if people are interested. Please contact Terry if you interested.

New WI-FI password is> happyzebra609

**The Hospitality Committee** would like to hear your ideas for things we can do to keep us together during covid. Send your ideas to Candy Sorensen at sorencan@yahoo.com

**The Building and Grounds Committee** encourages everyone to pick up the snow shovel and shovel the walks if they are snow covered. Also you can feed the birds if their feeder is empty. Bird seed is in the main floor storage room.

**Our NUUF Community**

If you know someone who is interested in joining the *Northwoods Unitarian Universalist Fellowship*, Terry Hoyt at thoyt@newnorth.net or call 715-3563908,

Check out our website http://nuuf.com. Also take time to *"LIKE"* us on Facebook. Click here on [*Northwoods Unitarian Universalist Fellowship*](https://www.facebook.com/groups/135173523266925/?ref=br_tf) for direct access if you already have a Facebook account. We're posting pics, reminders about events and more.

**Editor’s Note**

Hello everyone, I will be compiling the newsletter for the foreseeable future! Please send announcements and updates to me, Terry Hoyt, at thoyt@newnorth.net or to Candy Sorensen at sorencan@yahoo.com by Feb. 28 for the February newsletter. It is very helpful if your copy is written exactly the way you want it to read so that it can be copied and pasted. Thank you! ![C:\Users\My Computer\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\E1FTQCNU\Create_A_Newsletter_html_maf35df2[1].jpg]()